



Successful Auction of Strategic Mineral Blocks in Tranche IV: A Major Milestone for AtmaNirbhar Bharat in Mineral Sector

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The Ministry of Mines has successfully concluded the auction of 8 critical mineral blocks, launched under Tranche IV of the Auction of Critical and Strategic Mineral Blocks. This achievement underscores the government's commitment to bolstering mineral security and ensuring the availability of vital resources needed for the nation's energy transition, sustainable industrial and economic growth.

The auction, conducted under the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957, leverages the Central Government's authority to grant mineral concessions for key minerals listed in Part D of the First Schedule. This legislative empowerment marks a pivotal step in India's strategy to secure a steady supply of critical minerals vital for sectors including electronics, defense, and renewable energy.

Following the issuance of the Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) on June 24, 2024, for 21 mineral blocks, the auction attracted strong interest from industry stakeholders. After the evaluation of technical bids, 10 mineral blocks advanced to the second round of e-auction, which included three First Attempt Blocks and seven Second Attempt Blocks. These blocks contain deposits of strategic minerals such as phosphorite, graphite, and vanadium, essential for high-tech and green energy applications. Auction process for the 08 blocks have successfully concluded and for remaining 2 blocks the process will be completed by 02.12.2024.

Key details of the eight successful blocks in Tranche IV include:

Sl. No.	Name of the Block	State	Mineral Name	Concession Type	Name of the Preferred Bidder	Auction Premium (%)
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Balepalyam Tungsten and Associated Mineral Block	Andhra Pradesh	Tungsten and Associated Minerals (Mo, Au, Pb, Zn)	CL	Hindustan Zinc Limited	6.55
Depo Vanadium and Graphite Block	Arunachal Pradesh	Vanadium and Graphite	CL	Vedanta Limited	2.55
Endolin-Isholin Graphite Block	Arunachal Pradesh	Graphite	CL	Mamco Mining Private Limited	237.50
Phop Graphite and Vanadium Block	Arunachal Pradesh	Graphite and Vanadium	CL	Oil India Ltd	76.05
Radhpu Graphite and Vanadium Block	Arunachal Pradesh	Graphite and Vanadium	CL	Orissa Metaliks Private Limited	95.00
Sanyasikoppa Cobalt, Manganese and Iron Block	Karnataka	Cobalt, Manganese and Iron (Poly-Metal)	CL	Vedanta Limited	45.00
Nayakkarpatti Tungsten Block	Tamil Nadu	Tungsten	CL	Hindustan Zinc Limited	5.05
Barwar Phosphorite Block	Uttar Pradesh	Phosphorite	CL	Mamco Mining Private Limited	320.00

The Tranche IV auction has marked a beginning for North-East into India's mineral auction landscape, with four maiden blocks successfully auctioned. Significantly, this tranche features the first successful auction of a tungsten block and two cobalt blocks. These strategic minerals are essential for high-tech, defense, and energy storage applications, and will contribute towards reducing import dependency.

With the successful auction of 8 critical mineral blocks under Tranche IV, the total number of successfully auctioned critical & strategic mineral blocks by the Central Government has reached 22. The successful auction outcomes reflect the growing confidence among industry players in India's mining sector reforms. It is a step in fulfilling the government's vision to achieve self-reliance in critical minerals and position India as a competitive player in the global mineral economy. The Ministry of Mines extends its gratitude to all stakeholders for their active participation in Tranche IV.

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